

Message Text

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TO AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA PRIORITY

AMCONSUL DURBAN PRIORITY

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP, SF

SUBJ: ESCOM HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS

REF: AMCONSUL DURBAN A-77

1. USDOC MAJOR EXPORT PROJECTS DIVISION HAS BEEN ADVISED BY MR. R. B. SIEBENSOHN, MANAGER INTERNATIONAL SALES, ALLIS-CHALMERS HYDRO TURBINE DIVISION, YORK, PENNSYLVANIA THAT HE WILL BE VISITING SOUTH AFRICA 10-17 JANUARY 1975. THE PURPOSE OF SIEBENSOHN'S TRIP IS TO MEET WITH ESCOM AND TO ;NVESTIGATE LOCAL CONDITIONS IN PREPARATION TO BID ON THE FORTHCOMING ESCOM PUMPED-STORAGE HYDROELECTRIC PROJECTS.

2. THE TWO-PUMPED-STORAGE PROJECTS OF INTEREST TO ALLIS-CHALMERS (A-C) IS THE DRAKENSBERG SCHEME AT KILBURN IN NATAL AND THE WOLSELEY SCHEME AT VOGELVLEI LAKE IN THE WESTERN CAPE. A-C PLANS TO BID ON THE 250 MW REVERSIBLE
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PUMPED-TURBINES BEING SPECIFIED FOR THE TWO ESCOM PROJECTS.

AMONG APPOINT,EN;S IN JOHANNESBURG, SIEBENSOHN WILL BE MEETING WITH MR. B. W. GRABER, PRINCIPAL ENGINEER (HYDRO) AT ESCOM ON 10 JANUARY. A-C UNDERSTANDS THE SPECIFICATIONS FOR THE DRAKENSBERG PUMP-TURBINES WILL BE RELEASED ON 17

JANUARY.

3. DURING HIS ONE-WEEK STAY IN SOUTH AFRICA, MR. SIEBENSOHN WILL ALSO BE MEETING WITH LOCAL FIRMS WHICH HAVE EXPRESSED INTEREST TO PROVIDE REPRESENTATION FOR A-C HYDRO TURBINE DIVISION AND VISITING LOCAL MANUFACTURING AND FABRICATION FACILITIES WHICH COULD POTENTIALLY PROVIDE PART-SUPPLY FOR THE PUMP-TURBINE UNITS.

4. MR. SIEBENSOHN PLANS TO CONTACT THE AMCONSULATE, JOHANNESBURG ECON/COMMERCIAL SECTION ON 10 JANUARY TO BRIEF THE POST OF A-C'S INTEREST ON THESE PROJECTS AND DISCUSS HI, ITINERARY IN SOUTH AFRICA. ANY ASSISTANCE THE POSTS CAN OFFER MR. SIEBENSOHN IS APPRECIATED. KISSINGER

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